

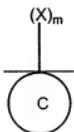
**Amendments to the Claims:**

This listing of claims will replace all prior versions, and listings of claims in the application:

**Listing of Claims:**

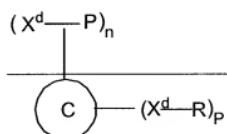
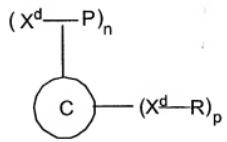
1-383. (Canceled)

384. (Currently Amended) A peptide immunogen-protein/polypeptide carrier conjugate of wherein the protein/polypeptide carrier has the formula:



wherein,

C is a protein/polypeptide carrier and X is a derivatizable functional group of an amino acid residue on the protein/polypeptide carrier or optionally of an amino acid residue of a peptide linker covalently attached to the protein/polypeptide carrier, and, wherein m is an integer greater than 0, but less than or equal to 85, and wherein the peptide immunogen-protein/polypeptide carrier conjugate has the formula:



wherein,

C is a[[the]] protein/polypeptide carrier selected from the group consisting of CRM<sub>197</sub>, Streptococcus pyogenes ORF1224, Streptococcus pyogenes ORF1664, Streptococcus pyogenes ORF2452, Chlamydia pneumoniae ORF T367, and Chlamydia pneumoniae ORF T858, [[and]]

X<sup>d</sup> is a derivatized functional group of an amino acid residue of the protein/polypeptide carrier or optionally of an amino acid residue of a peptide linker covalently attached to the protein/polypeptide carrier, and, wherein,

P is a peptide immunogen molecule covalently attached to the derivatized functional group of the amino acid residue of the protein carrier or optionally of an amino acid residue of a peptide linker covalently attached to a protein/polypeptide carrier,

R is a capping molecule covalently attached to the derivatized functional group of an amino acid residue of the protein/polypeptide carrier or optionally of an amino acid residue of a peptide linker covalently attached to a protein/polypeptide carrier, wherein thereby preserving the functionality of the carrier is preserved such that it retains its ability to elicit the desired immune responses against the peptide immunogen that would otherwise not occur without a carrier,

n is an integer greater than 0, but less than or equal to 38[[85]], and

p is an integer greater than 0, but less than 38[[85]].

385. (Canceled)

386. (Currently Amended) The conjugate of claim 384[[385]], wherein the protein/polypeptide carrier is CRM<sub>197</sub>.

387. (Previously Presented) The conjugate of claim 384, wherein the peptide immunogen is selected from the group consisting of a bacterial protein, a viral protein, and a eukaryotic protein.

388-391. (Canceled)

392. (Currently Amended) An immunogenic composition, comprising a conjugate of a peptide immunogen with a protein/polypeptide carrier generated by the method of claim 384[[377]], together with one or more pharmaceutically acceptable excipients, diluents, and/or adjuvants.

393. (Canceled)

394. (Currently Amended) The immunogenic composition of claim 392[[393]], wherein the protein/polypeptide carrier is CRM<sub>197</sub>.

395. (Previously Presented) The immunogenic composition of claim 392, wherein the peptide immunogen is selected from the group consisting of a bacterial protein, a viral protein, a fungal protein, a parasite protein, and a eukaryotic protein.

396. (Previously Presented) The immunogenic composition of claim 392, wherein one or more adjuvants are selected from the group consisting of GM-CSF, 529 SE, IL-12, aluminum phosphate, aluminum hydroxide, *Mycobacterium tuberculosis*, *Bordetella pertussis*, bacterial lipopolysaccharides, aminoalkyl glucosamine phosphate compounds, MPL<sup>TM</sup> (3-O-deacylated monophosphoryl lipid A), a polypeptide, Quil A, STIMULON<sup>TM</sup> QS-21, a pertussis toxin (PT), an *E.coli* heat-labile toxin (LT), IL-1  $\alpha$ , IL-1  $\beta$ , IL-2, IL-4, IL-5, IL-6, IL-7, IL-8, IL-10, IL-13, IL-14, IL-15, IL-16, IL-17, IL-18, interferon- $\alpha$ , interferon- $\beta$ , interferon- $\gamma$ , G-CSF, TNF- $\alpha$  and TNF- $\beta$ .

397-401. (Canceled)

402. (New) The immunogenic conjugate of claim 384, wherein the capping molecule is a product of reacting the conjugate with a capping reagent selected from the group consisting of cysteamine, N-acetylcysteamine, ethanolamine, ammonia, ammonium bicarbonate, sodium hydroxide and sodium carbonate.